GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:905
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2001
DEPLOYMENT OF ARMED FORCES FOR CIVIL WORKS
DILEEP SANGHANI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether armed forces are deployed for civil works;

(b) if so, the details of deployments during 2001 till date; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): The Military Engineering Service which includes civil and military personnel, is the designated specialised agency deployed for civil works in the Armed Forces. However, when occasion arises, in addition to their deployment for internal security duty and in the wake of natural calamities to render assistance to civil administration, the armed forces, particularly Army, often undertakes civic action projects such as construction/ renovation of the schools, playgrounds, community centres and other public utilities, provision of medical aid and drinking water facilities etc. in Jammu & Kashmir and insurgency affected states of the North East.These projects are small scale and are conceived on the basis of the requirements of the local population and executed with their active involvement. There is no specific deployment for these projects which are undertaken by the concerned Army formations.